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INTERNATIONAL

NEED SEEN TO BRING PEACE TO INDIAN OCEAN

Moscow APN DAILY REVIEW in English 29 Jun 81 pp 1-5

[Article by I. Kovalev: "Peace To the Indian Ocean"]

[Text] The problem of peace and security in the Indian Ocean has become a central one to world politics in recent years. The situation in this region is becoming increasingly strained and that is affecting, directly or indirectly, the interests of many nations.

I am referring, above all, to the interests of more than thirty countries whose shores are washed by the waters of this ocean. It is not only the security of these countries, but the development of their economies and international links that depend on the way the situation is shaping up in the Indian Ocean. Many other nations have their important transport and trade routes passing through the Indian Ocean. Besides, this is an area of research and other peaceful activity. The interest such countries have in the problems of the Indian Ocean is perfectly justified.

The quarters which are straining the situation in the Indian Ocean, particularly, in its North-Western sector, are pursuing utterly illegal interests in total disregard for the standards of international law. That is the only way one can qualify the attempts of the imperialist elements of the United States and its allies to bring under their own military control the sources of raw materials and the routes used for shipping them, above all, for oil supplies, and to create footholds for intervention in the affairs of the nations whose internal development runs counter to the aims and objectives of the West, that is, above all, to impede the progress of the liberation movement in these countries.

Washington is thinking up all kinds of pretexts in an attempt to justify the unprecedented massing of naval forces of the United States and its allies in the Indian Ocean as well as their rush measures to create military bases on the shores of the Indian Ocean and in the adjacent areas stretching all the way from South Africa to Kenya, Somalia, Egypt, Israel, Oman, Pakistan, Singapore, the Philippines and Australia, and to expand military facilities on the Diego Garcia Island. One "excuse" they have been invoking to this end is the Gulf War--the armed conflict between Iran and Iraq, and the "Afghan issue" in its Western interpretation, as well as "international terrorism" (that is, the national liberation movement).

As US military presence builds up, there is mounting anxiety in the countries of the Indian Ocean and their increased determination to ensure their security and a peaceful environment for the exploitation of sea routes under international treaties. The position and role of India, the largest nation in the region, is indicative in this respect. Geographically, India occupies the central place on the ocean coastline with its own stretching for 6,100 kilometres, and the issue at stake here is the security of its more than 680 million strong population.

The position of India, one of the founding nations of the nonaligned movement, with regard to the problems of the Indian Ocean stems, first and foremost, from here traditional and tried-out opposition to the policy of imperialist expansionism and neocolonialism--the course which has earned India great international respect. But it is, of course, not the traditions of the peace-seeking foreign policy of this country that matter alone. The stoking of tensions in the Indian Ocean actually threatens the most direct and vital interests of India.

India maintains trading links with 130-odd nations of the world and imports by sea more than half the oil and petroleum products she needs. That is what accounts for her vital interest in having her sea routes free from the sword of Damocles of those who are too fond of warlike ventures and who have arrogated the right to "punish" anyone that may not suit their taste.

Naturally, India, like any other country, does not want anybody to encroach on the security of her frontiers. Therefore, she cannot help being disturbed by the militarist fuss kicked up in the direct proximity of her territory.

The US-Pakistan-China military axis is being forged at full speed. China (in 1962) and Pakistan (in 1947, 1965 and 1971) are known to have committed acts of aggression against India. China is still occupying 36,000 square kilometres of Indian territory. Pakistan, too, has been laying provocative territorial claims against India. Military supplies are flowing into Pakistan along the Karakorum Highway built by the Chinese in north-western part of Indian territory illegally occupied by Islamabad. Moreover, the United States is about to start supplying Pakistan with new big consignments of arms and is proposing to gain the right to use the local military bases for its own naval and air forces.

In recent weeks, the government of India has more than once expressed its serious concern over the plans to rearm Pakistan and transform it into a central element of the American strategy in the Persian Gulf area to the detriment of peace and stability in the region. However, the US Administration has, to all intents and purposes, been ignoring India's opinion. The WASHINGTON POST said there was no sign of the US Administration heeding India's warnings.

Neither can Indian opinion be undisturbed by the news that the United States is attempting to get hold of "maintenance facilities" for its naval forces in some other countries of the Indian Ocean, in addition to those mentioned earlier on.

Recent exchange visits to Pakistan and China by high-ranking naval officers of both countries have also been quite meaningful. India's Defence Minister Sh. Patil pointed out in Indian Parliament that there was a "remote prospect" of China being granted the right to base her warships off Pakistan's coast. Should

that happen, China would obtain an opportunity--in a crisis situation--to threaten India not only from the North (she is still encouraging the wrecking activities of separatists and terrorists in India's north-eastern areas), but from the sea as well.

The tense situation in the Indian Ocean and adjacent areas considerably complicates the strengthening of India's economic ties with developing countries lying east and west of the Indian subcontinent. This is also hindered, to a certain extent, by conflicts which the imperialist quarters provoke and also by some countries of the region being drawn into the US militaristic net and the establishment of different kinds of blocs pursuing narrow regional aims.

Thus, interruptions with Middle East oil supplies resulting from the Iranian-Iraqi armed conflict have dealt a strong blow to the Indian treasury.

The growing military cooperation of some countries of the Indian Ocean area with Washington largely limits their possibilities of organising extensive economic cooperation with developing countries, specifically with India. In these countries the United States has acquired leverage to dictate its economic terms to these nations and has received the possibility of orienting them economically towards the Western monopolies.

Tensions which have arisen around Afghanistan in consequence of Pakistan's active participation in organising and arming Afghan counter revolutionary bands and also as a result of the policy of Washington which proclaimed arms deliveries to these bands its official policy, further aggravate the explosive situation near India's border and violate the structure of traditional diversified friendly ties between India and Afghanistan.

This is how the tensions which the United States and its allies are increasing in the Indian Ocean area are telling on India. That is why India is among the countries vigorously advocating the transformation of the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace and the abolition of the seats of conflicts in the region.

To some extent or other, in one or another manner the problems India faces also arise before other newly-free countries of the vast area of the Indian Ocean. However, by far not all these countries, as distinguished from India which in conducting an independent policy rests on a solid economic potential and which is capable of rebuking any encroachments on its sovereignty, can as actively counteract the forces of imperialism and hegemonism. Some countries, due to transient domestic or foreign policy considerations or due to their persisting economic dependence on the imperialist powers, show a double-faced case or passive attitude to the problems of peace and security of the Indian Ocean.

However, the so-called "different approaches" of the countries of the region are clearly not a direct expression of the main vital interests of the developing countries of the Indian Ocean. In the final analysis, for all the differences in their foreign policy stands, the overwhelming majority of the countries of the region stand for turning it into a zone of peace.

This is confirmed, for example, by the declaration adopted by the conference of the foreign ministers of non-aligned countries in Delhi in February, which was attended, among others, by representatives of nearly 30 countries of the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf.

As is known, at the session of the UN Ad-Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean which ended on June 20, Washington and its allies, resorting to obstructionism, torpedoed a decision to call an international conference on the Indian Ocean, initially planned for 1981, and the postponement of the conference is being discussed now. However, the discussion of this problem at the session clearly pointed to the sincere desire of the great majority of the countries of the region to look for effective ways of making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace.

The international community as a whole supports steps towards the relaxation of tension in the Indian Ocean. "The Soviet Union firmly supports the idea of turning the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace", L.I. Brezhnev told Indian Parliamentarians during his visit to India in December 1980. "We are prepared to work actively with other interested countries towards this end" he said.

(IZVESTIA, June 26. In full.)

CSO: 1812/72

INTERNATIONAL

WAY TO NORMALIZE AFGHAN SITUATION OUTLINED

Moscow APN DAILY REVIEW in English 13 Jul 81 pp 1-4

[Article by Yuri Kornilov, political analyst: "Afghanistan's Friends and Enemies"]

[Text] "Revolutionary Afghanistan has entered a new stage of development and this process is irreversible," said Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and Chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, at the press centre of the 26th Congress of the Soviet Communist Party. Life is continually confirming this statement. Although only three years have passed since the April revolution—a brief span of time, as it may seem—many important historic changes have taken place on ancient Afghan soil. The agrarian reform aimed at eliminating the vestiges of feudalism in the economic and social life of the countryside and opening up a way for the development of the productive forces there is being successfully implemented. About 700,000 hectares of land have been distributed among landless and poor peasants. A firm foundation of modern industry is being built; almost all industrial plants are operating to full capacity. More than half a million Afghans attend classes organised to combat illiteracy. They are enthusiastically learning how to read and write to defeat their eternal enemy—illiteracy and ignorance.

The People's Democratic Party has enhanced the weight of its authority in the masses; the unity of Afghan patriots is growing stronger; the mass of people is being actively involved in building a new society based on the principles of social progress and justice, a society without exploitation of man by man. The creation of the National Patriotic Front in Afghanistan is one of the convincing examples of this. It is designed to unite the energy, enthusiasm and work of the whole Afghan people.

Everyone who holds dear the cause of peace and national independence is enthusiastic about Afghanistan's progress. The reaction in the imperialist camp is in sharp contrast with this. An undeclared war unleashed against Afghanistan by US ruling circles and their accomplices and voluntary allies is continuing and the current US administration, which has openly embarked upon a policy of ensuring American imperialist domination in world affairs, is pursuing a blatant policy of fanning up the flames of the war.

In his recent interview, President Reagan openly said that the United States was prepared to supply arms to anti-Afghan mercenary forces created with American dollars and Chinese yuan on Pakistani territory. The same purpose of interfering in Afghanistan's affairs is served by Washington's decision to supply billions of dollars worth of arms to Pakistan, a country which is increasingly becoming a transit launching site of aggression and an American policeman in the Near East and South East Asia.

A recent statement made by US Secretary of State Alexander Haig needs no comment. While visiting China, he said that the United States and China had agreed to broaden cooperation in providing support for the counter-revolutionary forces fighting against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The aggression against Afghanistan has now become a part of a general offensive launched against the liberation and peace forces by the reactionary imperialist camp.

The armed attacks of imperialism against Afghanistan are vastly supported by propaganda means. A so-called Afghan question is being actively used in the West for slandering the Afghan revolution and the USSR, though the sponsors of such provocative campaigns know perfectly well that neither Afghanistan nor the Soviet Union have ever nurtured any plans to the detriment of third countries and their interests. At the same time, attempts are made to camouflage the essence of the aggressive policy conducted by the imperialist circles of the United States and some of its NATO allies with regards to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, misinform the public at large and present Washington and its allies as "peace-makers". It is worth noting in this connection that the West has lately been harping on a so-called initiative of the participants in the session of the European Economic Community which is based on the British proposal and which is being posed by Washington, London and some other Western capitals as nearly a "key to a settlement".

The Soviet Union, like Afghanistan itself, is for a political settlement which would put an end to the undeclared war against Afghanistan and give the latter reliable guarantees of non-interference. It is more than clear, however, that such a settlement is impossible if the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan does not participate in it. Meanwhile, precisely this indispensable condition is ignored and rejected in the above-mentioned "initiative" which calls for the convocation of an "international conference on Afghanistan" without the DRA's spokesmen. Is there any need to prove that the discussion of questions concerning a certain country behind its back is outside of the framework of normal relations among states.

It is crystal clear that the above-mentioned "initiative" cannot be the basis for serious talks. It is unrealistic. Judging by everything, it has been advanced for a purpose which has nothing to do with a true desire to settle the situation obtaining around Afghanistan. As the Oriental saying goes, you can't hide a camel in the folds of your robe. It is clear in spite of all the tricks used by the imperialist circles in a bid to pose as "advocates of a settlement" that Washington and those acting on its instructions are not going to stop interference in the affairs of the DRA. If they advocate any "settlement" at all, it is nothing but an attempt to decide the destiny of Afghanistan behind its back and in the

interest of the forces hostile to the Afghan people which do not give up the hope to eliminate the gains of the Afghan revolution.

Real ways toward settling the situation over Afghanistan are set forth in the statement by the Afghan Government of May 14, 1980. The essence of the Afghan proposals is to hold talks between Afghanistan and its neighbours, first of all, Iran and Pakistan, and to ensure guarantees of an agreement on the part of the Soviet Union and the United States. An accord on political settlement would make it possible to establish by agreement with the Afghan side the terms and order of withdrawing Soviet troops from Afghanistan. Nonresumption of intervention against Afghanistan should be reliably guaranteed. The statement by the Afghan Government of May 14, 1980 specially stresses that problems concerning the interests of Afghanistan cannot be discussed and solved without the participation of or apart from the Afghan Government.

While actively backing Afghanistan's peace initiatives, the Soviet Union views them in the context of normalizing the situation in the region in general. It is ready to participate in the settlement on Afghanistan both separately and in linkage with problems of the Persian Gulf security. Of course, in this case only international aspects of the Afghan problem can be discussed.

It is high time those who encroach upon Afghanistan understood that their adventurist schemes are doomed. Millions of Afghans are determined to uphold and consolidate their revolutionary gains. Any attempts to speak with Afghanistan from the position of strength are senseless. At present, like before, Afghanistan has all grounds to count on the solidarity and internationalist assistance of the Soviet people in defending the April revolution, its aims and tasks. Neither stepping up aggression and subversion against sovereign revolutionary Afghanistan nor attempts to decide the destiny of the Afghan people contrary to their will and behind their back, but negotiating on the wide constructive basis suggested by the Afghan Government is the sole way to true settlement. There is no other reasonable alternative to this.

(SELSKAYA ZHIZN, July 11. In full.)

CSO: 1812/72

INTERNATIONAL

GEORGIAN INSTITUTE STUDIES LANGUAGES, CULTURES OF NEAR AND MIDDLE EAST

Moscow NARODY AZII I AFRIKI in Russian No 3, 1981 (signed to press 10 Jun 81)
pp 142-151

[Article by T. V. Gamkrelidze, Institute of Eastern Studies imeni Academician G. V. Tsereteli of the Georgian SSR Academy of Sciences]

[Text] The establishment of Eastern Studies as a science in Georgia has involved the scientific and pedagogical activity of the outstanding Georgian scholars at Tbilisi University, I. A. Dzhavakhishvili, A. G. Shanidze, G. S. Akhvlediani, Yu. I. Abuladze and others who have been educated in the brilliant traditions of pre-revolutionary Russian Eastern Studies. Since the victory of the Great October Revolution and the establishment of Soviet power in Georgia, the Tbilisi University has sent its young philologists to Leningrad for training in the main disciplines in Eastern Studies. This galaxy of Georgian scholars also laid the basis--first in Tbilisi State University and later in the system of the Georgian SSR Academy of Sciences--for the national Eastern Studies school which has subsequently received international acclaim.

A faculty of Eastern languages (head--S. S. Dzhikiya) was organized in 1936, and a department of Eastern Studies (G. V. Tsereteli) was created in the Institute of Language, History and Material Culture of the Georgian Branch of the USSR Academy of Sciences. In 1960, on the initiative of academician G. V. Tsereteli, an eminent Soviet eastern specialist, an Institute of Eastern Studies was organized on the basis of the corresponding departments and groups functioning in the institutes of language studies, history and history of Georgian literature and the Institute of Manuscripts of the Georgian SSR Academy of Sciences in the system of the Georgian SSR Academy of Sciences. It now bears the name of this late scholar. The Institute of Eastern Studies of the Georgian SSR Academy of Sciences, under the leadership of G. V. Tsereteli, became one of the leading Eastern Studies centers of the country.

At the present time the Institute consists of the following departments: languages of the Ancient East (head--Prof. T. V. Gamkrelidze), Semitology (Prof. K. G. Tsereteli), Turkology (Prof. S. S. Dzhikiya), Persian philology (M. A. Todua), Indo-Iranian languages (Prof. Dzh. Sh. Giunashvili), Byzantology (Prof. S. G. Kaukhchishvili), history of countries of the Near East (Prof. V. N. Gabashvili), new and modern histories of the countries of the Near East (Prof. O. I. Giginayshvili), and information (Prof. Z. M. Sharashenidze), and also a laboratory of general phonetics and typology of eastern languages (Prof. V. G. Akhvlediani).

There are 150 scholars working in the Institute, including three academicians of the Georgian SSR Academy of Sciences, two corresponding members of the Georgian SSR Academy of Sciences, one corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, and 24 doctors and 46 candidates of sciences.

The basic area of the scholarly activity of the Institute of Eastern Studies envisions research on crucial problems of eastern philology, linguistics, history, culture and literature of peoples of the Near and Middle East and questions of cultural-historical interrelations between Georgia and peoples and countries of this region.

In the research work special attention is devoted to bringing eastern material (linguistic, literary and historical) into the sphere of the general theoretical problematic and, on the basis of this, solving theoretical problems of general linguistics, literary scholarship and the world historical process, taking into account information from eastern languages, history and the culture of the peoples of the East.

In the area of eastern linguistics research the orientation is toward a synchronic study of authenticated language systems, which are subsequently juxtaposed structurally and typologically to systems of certain linguistic environments and compared to native languages in order to reconstruct the initial language models and the paths of the historical development of these languages.

A large amount of work is being done to describe individual languages and whole language groups and to investigate them structurally and typologically: ancient Eastern, Semitic, Indo-Iranian, and Turkic. The research is being done at all levels of language structure--phonetic-phonological, morphological, syntactic and lexico-semantic. There is corresponding study on problems of phonetics and phonology, morphophonology and morphology, syntax and lexicology of these languages. Their basic grammars and monographic descriptions are being created. Problems of area linguistics and the dialectology of the language systems under consideration occupy a special place in this research.

Serious attention is being devoted to the study of ancient Eastern languages which was begun by G. V. Tsereteli using material of the Urartian language and written documents.¹ A dictionary-concordance of the Urartian language has been published. It takes into account all of the authenticated forms in the Urartian epigraphic literary texts.² The same kind of work is being done to study the Hurrian language.³

The Khatti and other Anatolian languages are being studied through structural-typological and genetic comparisons between them and other Indo-European languages. Special attention is being devoted to the Indo-European "laryngial hypothesis" in light of data from the Khatti language. A system of general Indo-European "laryngial phonemes" has been reconstructed and a schema has been presented to show the way they are reflected in Khatti and other Indo-European languages. Non-Indo-European elements of cuneiform Khatti (Nesitic) and questions of the reflection of Indo-European consonantism in Anatolian languages are being studied. Certain Semitic languages⁴ are being described and questions of the interrelations among Hamito-Semitic languages are being investigated in light of the allo-genetic hypothesis

that was developed by G. V. Tsereteli. The question of the distribution of consonant phonemes in the root morphemes of the ancient Ethiopian language have been studied.⁵ Considerable attention is being devoted to a comparative study of Semitic languages and a description of modern Semitic dialects. A number of published works are devoted to phonological and morphological systems of the new Syrian language and its dialects.⁶ Two independent Central Asian Arabic dialects have been discovered and investigated in detail. They developed throughout a long period in isolation from one another, and this made it possible to elucidate a number of cardinal problems of comparative Arabic dialectology.⁷ Questions of phonology, grammatical structure and the lexicon of the classical Arabic language and its modern dialects are also being studied.⁸

A great deal of attention is being devoted to the study of Indo-Iranian languages--Sanskrit, Hindi, ancient Persian, Middle Iranian dialects, New Persian and Ossetian. Individual problems of the structure of Buddhist and classical Sanskrit and also the Hindi language have been studied.⁹ The sound composition of the Persian language is being studied on the basis of data from x-ray studies, oscillography and spectography, with subsequent phonological analysis of the sound units and the establishment of a phoneme system of the Persian language. Nominal word formation in Persian is being studied. Archive materials have been published concerning Persian lexicography.¹⁰ The grammatical structure of the Ossetian language is being studied as are the lexicographical aspects of the Georgian-Ossetian language ties,¹¹ and also Ossetian texts. This work, which was done by I. Valguzidze, makes it possible to elucidate a number of questions of phonetics, morphology, lexicon and syntax of the Ossetian language of the 18th-19th centuries.

In the area of Turkology, work is being done to study runic and ancient Uiguric literary texts; questions of language interferences between Uralic and Altaic languages are being considered, mainly using material of Volga languages--Finno-Ugric (Maz, Mordovian and Udmurt) and Turkic (Chuvash, Tatar and Bashkir). Regarding syntactic interferences the problem of paired (complexly verbal) verbs was studied. Problems of language contacts are also being studied from the example of the Georgian-Azerbaijani language interference.¹² Special attention is being devoted to the development of problems of Turkic lexicology and lexicography.¹³ Works have been published in the area of dialectology¹⁴ and the study of borrowings of Turkic origin in various dialects of the Georgian language.¹⁵ Questions of phonetics of the Greek language from the Byzantine epoch are being investigated.¹⁶ Work is being done to compile a Byzantine-Georgian documented dictionary and bilingual dictionaries for the main Near Eastern languages--Arabic, Persian and Turkish, and also for the Syrian and modern Assyrian languages.

The general progress in typological and comparative studies in linguistics has given rise to new problems of comparative historical study of Indo-European, Semitic, Turkic, Georgian and other languages, and also the theory and methodology of diachronic linguistics in general. In studying the problematics of typological and diachronic linguistics, special attention is devoted to problems of linguistic reconstruction.

The new theory of general Indo-European language that was developed in the Institute of Eastern Studies in conjunction with the Institute of Slavic and Balkan Studies of the USSR Academy of Sciences suggests an interpretation of the system

of Indo-European consonantism which differs essentially from the system of classical Indo-European language study and forms an original hypothesis regarding the initial localization of Indo-European dialects. In this connection there arises the additional problem of "Indo-European ancestors," which is being solved in a new way in light of the proposed theory. It advances a hypothesis concerning ancient Near Eastern localization of the ancestry of the Indo-European which, if it is properly substantiated, can change the entire traditional picture of the migrations of the Indo-European tribes to their historical places of residence.

Typological research on Eastern languages presupposes a structural comparison and juxtaposition of these languages with language systems of various groups and areas in order to reveal linguistic and ethnolinguistic universals and to establish general patterns of language development.¹⁷ Research of ancient and modern languages of the Near Asian region on the basis of the rich heritage of written material in these languages in the forms of texts with the most varied content leads naturally to the development of work for critical assimilation of this extremely rich technological material and the publication of texts with translations and historical-philological commentaries (epigraphic written texts, texts with historical, literary, mythological and ritual content, and so forth).

A great deal of attention is devoted to deciphering, studying, and writing commentaries on epigraphic written texts, narrative sources and documents which provide valuable material for the history of the political and cultural life of the countries of the Near East and the Caucasus from the most ancient times right up to the present.

Among the most important of these written texts are the Armasian inscriptions written in the original script of Aramaic origin which are a new source not only for the history of the development of Eastern Aramaic writing and its branches, but also for the study of the political and cultural life of Iberia during the first through third centuries A. D. Related to this is work on Iranian epigraphic literary texts and Manichean documents of the same epoch. Greek, Arabic and Hebrew epigraphic literary texts which were discovered on Georgian territory¹⁸ have been published with detailed commentary. Research on ancient Georgian epigraphic literary texts from Palestine¹⁹ is of special importance for solving a number of important problems concerning the cultural and political history of Georgia during the fourth century. In the area of the study of manuscripts and text criticism, one should note the work done to compile catalogues of manuscripts,²⁰ and to investigate ancient Hebrew, Turkic, Azerbaijani and Persian texts.²¹

A text of the medieval Persian novel, "Vis o Ramin," has been published. This publication takes into account all existing editions of the text, the basic manuscripts and the ancient Georgian translation of the Persian novel that was published previously.²² A text has been published of the Georgian translation of the Middle Persian literary text "Karnamak-e Ardasher-i Papakan." It has notes and a glossary.²³

One should take special note of the work for studying, translating and publishing Georgian-Persian and Persian historical documents,²⁴ and also Turkic historico-economic documents.²⁵ This work is an exemplary critical edition of the most complicated Turkic text which was written in siakat handwriting and is essentially the

first complete publication of an historical Turkic document of this type in Turkological literature.

Information of Eastern authors concerning Georgia is being published²⁶ as are individual chapters of the work of Ibn al-Fakikha al-Khamadani²⁷ and a series is being published which is devoted to Georgian-Byzantine cultural-historical interrelations.²⁸ Volume IV of "Kartlis tskhovreba" has been published (ISTORIYA GRUZII), which contains the text "The History of Georgia" by Vakhushti Bagrationi (18th century).²⁹

The study of ancient written texts and the assimilation of the diverse textological material in Eastern languages will lead to a consideration, on comparative-typological and genetic planes, of individual systems of Eastern writing systems and, in this connection, problems of the appearance and development of writing in general.

In this connection, special attention should be given to the work of G. V. Tsere-teli on "Armazskaya Bilingva," which gives for the first time a paleographic analysis of a new, previously unknown variety of Aramaic writing called "Armasian Aramaic." In the area of cuneology (the study of the cuneiform system of writing) a suggestion has been made concerning the nature and origin of Khatti cuneiform not from Hurrian writing, as was previously supposed, but from the Old Akkadian system of cuneiform writing which was used in Northern Syria at the beginning of the second millennium B. C.

We are interested in the question of the typology, origin and interrelations of writing systems of the Semitic-Greek group. On the basis of a comparative-typological analysis of ancient Georgian capital writing, Asomtavruli, in comparison with a number of ancient writing systems, one can assert that the ancient Georgian alphabet derived from the Greek writing prototype and not from the old Semitic "consonant-syllabic" writing. Coptic, Gothic, ancient Armenian and Old Slavic writing comprise a special typological group of alphabet systems of the Christian epoch that are based on the Greek prototype. This typological group of writing systems also includes ancient Georgian writing, Asomtavruli.

The Institute is doing intensive work in the area of literary scholarship and research of Arabic, Persian-tajik, Turkish, Azerbaijanian and Byzantine literatures and folklore and their ties with Georgian literature. First of all we shall give the fundamental research of verse structure of Rustaveli which goes far beyond the framework of the problems of Georgian versification, from which it follows that the poem "Vityaz' v barsovoy shkure" is constructed on a predictable alternation of strophes formed on the principle of equivalent proportion (segments 4:4) with strophes that are based on the principle of the "golden mean" (segments 5:3; 3:5).³⁰

A large amount of attention is being devoted to the study of medieval literature, the history of individual literary genres (the novel, dastan, satirical, historical, lyrical), questions of typology of literary processes,³¹ folklore, modern literatures of the peoples of the East,³² and literary ties.³³ Georgian versions of Persian written texts are being published.³⁴ Translations with historico-philological and literary annotations are being published both from the classical heritage and from modern authors.³⁵ Various collections of readings and training aids

are being compiled. A great deal of attention is being devoted to the study of questions of ancient mythology and Byzantine literature.³⁷

Questions of the history of the countries of the Near and Middle East and their interrelations with countries of the Transcaucasian region occupy a special place in the Institute's subject matter. Here the historical problematic is closely coordinated with the philological and also with the investigation of primary source texts. In the area of medieval history, on the basis of the wealth of concrete historical material, using data from Eastern primary sources (Arabic, Persian, Turkish and others), we are developing the problem of the genesis and development of feudal production relations in the countries of the Near and Middle East and Transcaucasia. A socio-economic history of the countries of the Near and Middle East during the feudal period (3rd-18th centuries) presupposes the development of a number of cardinal problems, particularly problems of feudal land ownership and agrarian relations in the Arab countries, Iran and Turkey,³⁸ and communal relations and their role in the process of feudalization of the Near Eastern region, kinship and tribal organizations, feudal state practices and the role of nomadic societies in the countries of the Near and Middle East. Special attention is devoted to the history of the class struggle and forms of its manifestations in various countries of the Near and Middle East, the administrative structure and the system of control of the provinces of various state formations on the territory of Near Eastern countries. Forms of private feudal and state exploitation, taxes, the tax system, and the socio-economic and legal position of the peasantry are also being studied. Urban problems are being developed especially intensively. We are investigating problems of the genesis of the Near Eastern feudal city. We are studying the histories of the cities and urban life of Arab countries, Iran, Turkey and Eastern Transcaucasia;³⁹ social movements in Near Eastern cities, the economic and social structure of the city, city organization, city administration, crafts and craftsmen's organizations, trade and trade organizations, internal and foreign trade of Near Eastern cities, the interrelations between the city and the country, city taxes and the tax system, the socio-economic structure of the urban population, its socio-economic and legal position and so forth.⁴⁰ Special study is being done on problems of commodity and monetary relations, numismatics and Eastern metrology.⁴¹

Questions of the interrelations between Georgia and countries of the Near East and the eastern Transcaucasian area in the Middle Ages are being investigated. The history of the interrelations between early medieval Georgia and the Arab caliphate, the land tax and religious policy of the caliphate in Georgia and also the problem of cultural interrelations between the caliphate and Georgia are being studied. Problems of the interrelations between Georgia and small political formations in the eastern Transcaucasian area occupy a special place in the study of interrelations.⁴² Work has been extensively developed on problems of the interrelations between Georgia and the Mongols, Safavid Iran and Ottoman Turkey,⁴³ and for the study of the economic, land, tax and religious policy of Iran and Turkey in medieval Georgia.⁴⁴

Certain problems of Eastern culture are being developed, particularly a periodization of Near Eastern feudal culture; a determination of the main directions of Arab culture and the role and position of individual Arab writers in the history of the early medieval Arab culture; the urban theme in Eastern artistic literature (8th-12th century); Georgian-Turkish cultural and political interrelations, and several others.

The Institute is conducting research on the problem of Georgian-Byzantine political relations in the early feudal epoch and in the period of developed feudalism.⁴⁵

In the area of recent and modern history, a good deal of importance is attached to the development of the following themes: agrarian relations in the countries of the Near East; the demography of countries of the Near and Middle East; theoretical problems of the international workers' and national liberation movement. We have published a number of collections and monographs devoted to problems of the influence and role of Leninism in the liberation struggle of peoples of the Near East.⁴⁶

We are studying the revolutionary movement in Egypt since World War II⁴⁷ and the history of Iraq during the period of the English mandate.⁴⁸

A significant place in the works of Arabic historians is occupied by such problems as the national liberation movement of the Kurds, agrarian relations in modern Kurdistan, the principle of socio-economic organizations of Kurdish tribes and the prospects for the economic development of individual parts of Kurdistan.⁴⁹ We are comprehensively considering problems of the struggle between progressive and reactionary forces and the consequences of colonial rule by imperialist powers in the Arab East, and so forth.

The themes in the history of Iran embrace the period from the 18th century to the present time. Special attention is devoted to elucidating questions related to the history of Georgia and the Transcaucasian area.⁵⁰ We are studying the history of Iran during the period of the rule of Kerim-Khan Zenda and the seizure of power by the Kadzhars.⁵¹ Work on the theme "Revolution during 1905-1911 in Iran," particularly a study of the influence of the 1905 Russian Revolution and the participation of Georgian revolutionaries in the Iranian revolution, is being conducted on the basis of an analysis of archive documents and through direct questioning of participants in the events. In the area of modern Iranian history we have discussed crucial issues of the so-called "White Revolution" and the cooperative movement.⁵² The work of O. M. Gvilav, "Iranian Turkmens" (Tbilisi, 1968) is devoted to one of the crucial problems of modern Iran--the problem of nomadic tribes in the historical-ethnographic aspect, and the works of Z. M. Sharashenidze, "New Materials on Feredan Georgians" (Tbilisi, 1969) and "Feredan 'gurdzhi'" (Tbilisi, 1979) are devoted to the life of Feredan Georgians.

In Turkish history the research embraces the 18th-20th centuries. It includes mainly questions of Turko-Georgian relations at the end of the 18th century, problems of the formation of the Turkish bourgeois nation, the ideology of the Turkish society in 19th-20th centuries, Turkish foreign policy before and during the World War, the Caucasian policy of the young Turkish nation and several aspects of agrarian relations in modern Turkey.⁵³

The Institute is also doing reference and bibliographical work.⁵⁴

The achievements of Georgian Eastern scholars are widely recognized by the international scholarly community. This is demonstrated particularly by the selection of several scholars of the Institute of Eastern Studies of the Georgian SSR Academy of Sciences to be honorary members of a number of foreign academies of sciences and

international scientific societies, and also foreign members of editorial boards of specialized periodical publications and scholarly journals.

The activity of the Georgian Eastern Studies center takes place in close cooperation with other scholarly institutions of the Soviet Union and foreign countries. Many workers of the Institute are participating in collective publications that are being prepared in Eastern Studies centers of our country and also abroad. The Institute participates in scholarly sessions, conferences and meetings convened by the Institute of Eastern Studies of the USSR Academy of Sciences and other Eastern Studies centers of our country. The Institute is an organizer and active participant in many all-union and republic conferences and symposiums.

The Institute publishes special subject collections on philology and history which embrace a broad range of Eastern Studies problems. Four philological collections have been published under the general title "Philologia Orientalis." The last of them was devoted to the memory of academician G. V. Tsereteli and was published in 1976. It was prepared with the participation of eminent scholars from many countries of the world.

A good deal of attention is devoted to the training of young Eastern specialists. The Institute has a graduate school and a specialized council for awarding the scholarly degree of doctor of philological sciences in the specialty "Semitic languages." Conferences of young scholarly workers organized by the Institute's council of young scholars are held annually. They coordinate the scholarly work of youth and publish a special collection of the more interesting papers.

Crucial problems in the corresponding branches of Eastern Studies are discussed at special scholarly seminars and plans are made for future research. The broad and multifaceted subject matter conditions the prospects for further growth of the Institute of Eastern Studies imeni G. V. Tsereteli of the Georgian SSR Academy of Sciences and the development of research work in traditional and modern crucial branches of Eastern Studies.

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REGIONAL

'FUTURELESS' VILLAGE REFUSES TO DIE, ORGANIZES NEW KOLKHOZ

Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 29 Jul 81 p 1

[Article by V. Lebedev, "They Called Levashovka Futureless"]

[Text] By their actions the young inhabitants of a village in Voronezh have crossed out the epithet "futureless" which the village had borne for all of 15 years. Now [located] here is the center of '10th Five-Year Plan', the leading kolkhoz of the Anninskiy rayon.

It goes without saying that they had a reason for giving the farm such a name. It was founded at the beginning of 1976 during the first months of the 10th Five-Year Plan. Those who for some reason or other either could not or would not leave their native village, [the one] with no future, came to the kolkhoz organizational meeting. Among them were 10 komsomols. These latter immediately supported a candidate who was well-known to them for president--Yuriy Dunayev, first secretary of the rayon komsomol.

However, those who were older doubted him albeit only at first: after all, he was so very young. Could he manage such a heavy responsibility? When they found out that he had worked as chief engineer of a large kolkhoz before [working at] the raykom, they unanimously voted for him.

The creation of a new kolkhoz in and of itself still could not guarantee the prosperity of the village. Indeed, at one time it even had two collective farms. Thereupon, they [the farms] got larger and broke up many times before becoming a brigade "out in the country." It [the village] came to have fewer and fewer people. They temporarily halted the recently begun construction of a club. Even the gradeschool closed for lack of enough students. Three little children attended the nursery school. With the slushy and snowy lack of roads, it was not easy getting to the highway to gather in town or at the rayon center.

The five-year plan--not a long period of time--but already you won't recognize Levashovka, and they have already completely forgotten the uncomplimentary epithet of "futureless." An asphalt road has connected it to the main road. The old streets have been dressed up and have gotten prettier. A whole street of white-stoned cottages with every municipal convenience has grown up. There are quite a few newly erected production buildings. A club has opened, and a youth park has been laid out near it; a memorial to those who fell in the war has been erected.

There are 27 children in the new nursery school. Another such nursery school, as well as schools, stores, and a comprehensive receiving center of consumer services for the population will be constructed in turn.

Moreover, the kolkhoz has not gone into debt--the yearly income from sugar beet production and animal husbandry has reached a million rubles.

There is not even a mention of migrating. Many of those who left earlier have already returned. The number of able-bodied workers has grown to 85 persons. The membership of the komsomol organization has tripled. The farm has already prepared more than ten specialists in VUZes and tekhnikums and now sends away its own grant-aided students every year.

Of course, far from all futureless villages--and there are quite a few of them in the Central Chernozem--can repeat a similar path of resurrection. But what fate is destined for the others? Not long ago the ispolkom of the soviet of people's deputies of Voronezh oblast specially discussed the destiny of very small populated spots. Closing their schools, medical points, stores, cafeterias, and liquidating their little animal husbandry operations were recognized as obviously premature. Indeed, it is exactly for those reasons that many families leave the village. Statistics have proved: only a small part of the inhabitants of such villages resettle on the central farmstead. The majority, including experienced machine operators, animal husbandrymen, and specialists, leave the village area and work in the city at trades other than their own.

In the oblast a number of measures have been taken to improve medical and cultural-personal services and to create normal working, study, and recreational conditions. Specifically, groups of medics, the rayon's multi-purpose service center brigades, and craft and club buses travel to outlying little villages.

The future of the village undoubtedly lies in concentrating agricultural production. But as life has shown, the large central farms and mechanized complexes, and the small villages with tiny farms, private plots, and people's small-scale crafts and industries do not disturb each other at all. Kolkhoz and sovkhoz land cannot be "futureless."

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REGIONAL

SOLOMENTSEV REVIEWS NONCHERNOZEM DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

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/Article/ by M. S. Solomentsev, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers: "Nonchernozem Zone: New Development Horizons"/

/Text/ In March 1981 the Central Committee of the Party and the Soviet Government adopted the decree "On the Further Development and Increase in the Efficiency of Agriculture in the Nonchernozem Zone of the RSFSR in 1981-1985"¹ worked out with the most direct participation of L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The nonchernozem zone of the RSFSR is one of the most important regions of the Soviet Union. Historically, it has an extremely significant role in the creation and development of the economic and scientific-technical potential of the new society and of advanced forms of organization of public production and in the formation and improvement of the socialist way of life. Therefore, the constant attention of our party and of the Soviet State to the solution of the national economic and social problems of this zone is not accidental. The decree of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers on measures to further develop agriculture in the nonchernozem zone adopted in 1974 on Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's initiative outlined a program of an overall nature characteristic of the economic policy of mature socialism. L. I. Brezhnev stressed that it was a matter "of significantly raising the productive forces of this zone and, in fact, of developing, as it were, new virgin land in the European part of the Soviet Union"² through the intensification of agriculture.

As is well known, the 1974 decree referred to a set of tasks designed for fulfillment during the period until 1990. During the time that elapsed since then it was possible to solve a wide range of problems. In his speech at the meeting with the voters of the Baumanskiy Electoral District of the city of Moscow on 2 March 1979 L. I. Brezhnev noted the following: "In many respects our nonchernozem zone has a new look right now."³

At the same time, major changes took place in our entire country. Extensive experience in economic construction and in an improvement in the mechanism of economic management on the basis of the decisions of the 25th Congress and of subsequent plenums of the Central Committee and of the decrees of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers was accumulated. A number of important documents of a long-term effect concerning problems of agrarian policy under

present conditions, including "On the Further Development of Specialization and Concentration of Agricultural Production on the Basis of Interfarm Cooperation and Agroindustrial Integration" (May 1976) were adopted. Some of these documents are devoted especially to problems concerning the nonchernozem zone.⁴

The results of the July (1978) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee were an important contribution to the cause of the fight for the solution of problems of agrarian policy at the present stage. The ideas and directives of that plenum and the practical measures envisaged on the eve of and after the July Plenum of the Central Committee closely connected with them became an important component of the agrarian policy of the party and determined in large measure the prospects for its realization during the 11th Five-Year Plan. New opportunities in the development of all the spheres of our life opened up in connection with the adoption of the USSR Constitution of 1977 and the refinement in Soviet legislation on its basis. The exchange of experience in the organization of agricultural production between the USSR and other countries of the socialist camp acquired great importance.

A generalized evaluation of all these phenomena was presented in the documents and materials of the 26th CPSU Congress. On the basis of an all-around scientific interpretation of the practice of communist construction the accountability report of the Central Committee to the party congress and "Basic Directions in the Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1981-1985 and for the Period Until 1990" determined the strategy and tactics of our party on major problems of economic and social development as applied to the specific conditions of the 1980's. The new decree on the nonchernozem zone of the RSFSR with due regard for the ideas and aims of the 26th Party Congress specifies the tasks for the implementation of the overall program for the transformation of this region.

Autonomous republics and oblasts in the nonchernozem zone play an important role in the country's economy. A total of 60.9 million people, or 44 percent of the population of the Russian Federation, now live there and 11,500 enterprises producing almost one-half of the industrial output in the RSFSR are located there.

At the same time, this is a large agricultural region called upon to provide the population of cities and large industrial centers with various farm and livestock products. Farms in the nonchernozem zone produce approximately one-fifth of all the grain gathered in the RSFSR, more than one-half of the potatoes, 33 percent of the vegetables, almost all the flax fiber, 39 percent of the milk and eggs, 30 percent of the meat and many other products.

Extensiveness--the vast transformation work on a territory stretching from Kaliningrad on the Baltic Sea to the Urals, from the polar tundra to the chernozem regions of the country's center--is the distinctive feature of the program for the development of agriculture in the nonchernozem zone. Thus, this is one of the major regional projects carried out during the years of Soviet rule. Only the subjugation of virgin land can be compared with it.

Extensiveness has many positive aspects. For example, in the nonchernozem zone there is a vast internal market guaranteeing the sale of the products of any large-scale industry. Here the competent manager can display his initiative. Here

there is a wide scope for new agricultural, construction and reclamation equipment and for bold technological solutions both in production and in construction. Here the rural worker constantly feels the support of the city and of workers of industrial enterprises. With the help of city dwellers thousands of production and social-domestic projects were built in villages in the nonchernozem zone. This help is also now important in the performance of harvesting and other operations in rural areas.

However, there were and there are--this is no secret--considerable difficulties in the nonchernozem zone. We refer primarily to the fact that on many farms it was necessary to begin the advance of production and the transformation of the way of life of rural dwellers from a very low level. Depopulated villages, separated from each other by dozens of kilometers of impassable roads, with small neglected land areas and with dwarfish farms, on which only manual labor is possible, an acute shortage of specialists on kolkhozes and sovkhozes, agricultural equipment not adapted to local conditions, a low level of development of industrial sectors connected with agriculture and many other things--unfortunately, all this was characteristic of the north-western and Central Russian village until recently. "Owing to a number of reasons," L. I. Brezhnev said at the 26th Congress, "this region was under more difficult conditions as compared with some others. The CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government mapped out and are implementing extensive measures for the development of the nonchernozem zone. This problem is so complex and urgent that it should be solved by the joint efforts of all the republics and, if possible, in a short time."⁵

The lack of preparation of the construction base was the complex problem encountered at the first stages of work. The powerful construction administrations and trusts of Union ministries established in oblasts and republics were oriented toward operation under city conditions, whereas rural construction organizations did not and still do not have sufficient forces to cope with the increased volume of work. Essentially, the production reclamation base had to be reestablished. Therefore, during all these years, from the moment of adoption of the decree of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers in March 1974, party, Soviet and economic bodies in the nonchernozem zone and the appropriate ministries and departments paid paramount attention to the development of enterprises of the construction industry and of the construction materials industry, to the establishment of a network of large well-equipped reclamation organizations and to the training of skilled cadres of builders and reclamation specialists.

We must not fail to state that the years of the past 5-year period brought severe tests to workers in the nonchernozem zone. It is well known how complex the weather conditions were. Essentially, there was not one favorable year in 5 years.

However, all these difficulties did not crush the will of agricultural workers in the nonchernozem zone. The concern of the party produced a vast surge of strength and energy in them and strengthened their confidence in the success of the begun endeavor.

It should be stated openly that not everything that was envisaged was attained. The results proved to be more modest than we expected. However, what was done during those years should not be underestimated. Kolkhoz and sovkhoz workers,

party, Soviet and economic bodies in oblasts and autonomous republics, ministries and departments worked a great deal to realize the program for the transformation of the nonchernozem zone.

During the 10th Five-Year Plan the fixed productive capital for agricultural purposes of kolkhozes and sovkhoses in the zone increased 1.6-fold, power capacities, 1.4-fold and the capital-labor ratio, 69 percent. The deliveries of mineral and lime fertilizers increased greatly. The mechanization of labor intensive processes in farming and animal husbandry is carried out at accelerated rates. Many agricultural enterprises and production facilities meeting the most modern requirements of scientific and technical progress were established there.

Along with the significant strengthening of the material and technical base of kolkhozes, sovkhoses and construction and water management organizations housing and cultural-domestic construction was carried out on a large scale.

All this taken together became an efficient lever of increase in the labor activity of workers, kolkhoz members and farm specialists and managers in the fight for the most rapid implementation of the plans outlined by the party. During the past five-year plan the production of grain in the nonchernozem zone of the RSFSR increased by 8 percent, of meat, by 6 percent and of eggs, by 29 percent, as compared with the Ninth Five-Year Plan. At the same time, the production of milk increased by only 1 percent and the production of potatoes, vegetables and flax fiber, in large measure owing to weather conditions, was below the level of the Ninth Five-Year Plan.

The nonchernozem zone is a region of a high marketability of agricultural products. Their purchases increased more rapidly than production, which is evident from the following table.

Purchases of Agricultural Products in the Nonchernozem Zone of the RSFSR
(on the average in a year--mill. tons)

	1971-1975	1976-1980	1976-1980 in % of 1971-1975
Grain	4	4.2	104
Potatoes	4.8	4.9	102
Vegetables	2	2.1	105
Flax fiber (thousands tons)	188	132	70
Livestock and poultry (live weight)	2.5	2.6	105
Milk	11.3	12.5	111
Eggs (billion)	6.9	10.6	153

As we see, the increase was attained in the purchases of all basic agricultural products except for flax fiber. The volume of gross output of farming and animal husbandry increased considerably in Leningrad, Moscow, Arkhangel'skaya, Sverdlovskaya, Permskaya and Murmanskaya Oblasts and in the Karel'skaya, Komi and Udmurt-skaya Autonomous Republics.

Thus, an analysis of the results of fulfillment of the program for the transformation of the nonchernozem zone during the past five-year plan confirms convincingly the correctness and effectiveness of the party policy for an accelerated development of agriculture in this major industrial and agricultural region in the country.

This is also indicated by the fact that under the guidance of party organizations many kolkhozes, sovkhoses and entire regions in the nonchernozem zone, efficiently utilizing land, higher capital investments and material and technical resources and creatively introducing scientific achievements and advanced experience into production, attained a significant increase in agricultural output during quite a short period.

Here are only some examples. On the Zarya Kolkhoz in Zhukovskiy Rayon, Kaluzhskaya Oblast, in the last 5 years the gross output of agriculture increased by 35 percent, of grain, by 50 percent, of potatoes, by 55 percent, of milk, by 56 percent and of meat, by 54 percent. The productivity of the dairy herd almost doubled, reaching a high level on this farm during that period. Last year the average milk yield totaled 4,100 kg of milk and 108 heifers per 100 cows were obtained.

The following are gathering strength confidently: the Turinskiy Sovkhoz in Sverdlovskaya Oblast, the Kolkhoz imeni Chkalov in Arzamasskiy Rayon, Gor'kovskaya Oblast, the Krasnoye Znamya Kolkhoz in Svechenskiy Rayon, Kirovskaya Oblast, the Kolkhoz imeni Kirov in Sheksninskiy Rayon, Vologodskaya Oblast, the Kolkhoz imeni Il'ich in Starorusskiy Rayon, Novgorodskaya Oblast, the Rossiya Kolkhoz in Permskiy Rayon, Permskaya Oblast, the Zheleznodorozhnyy Sovkhoz, Kaliningradskaya Oblast, and many, many others.

Now in almost every autonomous republic and oblast there are farms that gather 35 to 40 quintals of grain, 200 to 250 quintals of potatoes, 40 to 60 quintals of perennial grass hay and 6 to 8 quintals of flax fiber per hectare and more. Some 10 years ago it was difficult even to conjecture how generous the nonchernozem field would be.

It is important to stress that individual kolkhozes and sovkhoses, as well as whole rayons, such as Bagrationovskiy and Pravdinskiy in Kaliningradskaya Oblast, Kichmengsko-Gorodetskiy and Tarnogskiy in Vologodskaya Oblast, Kostromskoy in Kostromskaya Oblast, Dzerzhinskiy and Koverninskiy in Gor'kovskaya Oblast, Chaykovskiy in Perm'skaya Oblast, Sysertskiy in Sverdlovskaya Oblast and Kortkerosskiy in the Komi ASSR, have already attained high and stable results in the development of agricultural production. The list of such rayons could be continued.

This makes us confident that the nonchernozem field will endow the grain grower's labor with a full-weight harvest, not with individual records, on the entire vast area of almost 32 million hectares of arable land in the very near future.

Of course, for this it is necessary to apply a great deal of labor and to allocate vast capital investments for agriculture. Here, as nowhere, it is necessary to bring the sector's power-worker ratio and capital-labor ratio up to the optimum level and to have on every kolkhoz and sovkhos a set of equipment that would make it possible to carry out work during the best agrotechnical periods and to fulfill a whole set of measures ensuring the production of high and stable harvests even under these difficult conditions.

For the purpose of the further implementation of the long-term overall program for the development of agriculture in the nonchernozem zone 39.3 billion rubles of capital investments, or 24 percent more than actually utilized during the 10th Five-Year Plan, were allocated for the 11th Five-Year Plan. These funds are to be allocated primarily for an increase in land fertility, establishment of a stable fodder base, intensification of animal husbandry and improvement in the quality and reduction of losses of agricultural products.

For an accelerated increase in the production of plant products it is very important to carry out purposeful work on an increase in soil fertility on the basis of extensive land reclamation and chemicalization, improvement in farming systems with due regard for local natural and climatic conditions and rise in the general standard of production. The efforts of party, Soviet and agricultural bodies and all rural workers in the nonchernozem zone are now concentrated on the solution of these problems.

Land reclamation is a decisive condition for the production of stable guaranteed harvests and for the attainment of a high level of development of farming and animal husbandry and the key unit in the realization of the entire long-term program for the transformation of agriculture in the nonchernozem zone. Soil, agrochemical, economic and other surveys show that acid and water-logged soil with a low content of nutrients occupies considerable areas of agricultural land in the nonchernozem zone. A considerable part of the land area is overgrown with shrubs and low forests and is subject to wind and water erosion.

All this necessitated large-scale reclamation work. A total of 4.3 billion rubles of state capital investments and kolkhoz funds were allocated for land reclamation during the 10th Five-Year Plan, which exceeds the level of the Ninth Five-Year Plan 1.8-fold. During that period more than 1.3 million hectares of drained and irrigated land were put to use and amelioration work was carried out on an area of almost 2 million hectares.

A transition to an overall development of reclaimed land was made. Object programs for the production of fodder, vegetables, chicory and common hop on this land were developed and are being realized. Right now improved land provides 57 percent of all the vegetables in the nonchernozem zone.

Reclamation enabled many kolkhozes and sovkhoses to raise the level of production management to a qualitatively new stage. The Povadinskiy Sovkhoz in Moscow Oblast is a convincing example of a high yield from the implemented overall land improvement measures. On this sovkhos in the last 10 years land reclamation and complete cultivation were carried out on all the land, the agrotechnology recommended by science was introduced and skilled personnel were trained. As a result, the yield of grain crops on the farm increased from 15 to 40 quintals, of potatoes, from 120 to 290 quintals and of hay, from 30 to 70 quintals per hectare and the provision of animal husbandry with fodder doubled. The establishment of a firm fodder base enabled the sovkhos to increase milk yields from 2,200 kg to 3,700 kg per cow annually. Whereas in the past the sovkhos was chronically unprofitable, now it annually receives more than 1 million rubles of profit.

There are many such examples. They convincingly confirm V. I. Lenin's conclusion that in proportion to technical progress "the concepts of land unsuitable for farming can change quickly," "cultural advance transforms unsuitable into suitable land" and "every advance of agricultural equipment 'opens up' for Russia ever newer areas"⁶ from the land resources that have not yet been developed.

A new significant forward step will have to be taken for a successful fulfillment of the outlined reclamation construction program during the 11th Five-Year Plan. In 1981-1985 a total of 1,410,000 hectares of drained and 360,000 hectares of irrigated agricultural land are to be put to use, amelioration work on an area of 2,065,000 hectares is to be carried out and overall construction of new sovkhozes for the production of vegetables, onions, chicory and fodder on reclaimed land is to be accelerated. Work on land drainage on an area of 9 to 10 million hectares and amelioration work on an area of 8 to 10 million hectares will have to be carried out by 1990. Only a while back the Russian Federation, as well as the country as a whole, did not know such a scope of reclamation construction. In connection with this right now it is very important to concentrate efforts on the acceleration of the rates of land reclamation and improvement in its utilization. This is especially necessary, because a lag in the fulfillment of the outlined reclamation construction plans was allowed during the past period.

During this 5-year period it is necessary to continue work on strengthening the production base of reclamation organizations, because precisely this is one of the main prerequisites for the further acceleration of the rates and improvement in the quality of reclamation. During those years provision was made to complete the construction of 16 key unified enterprises of the construction industry of the Main Administration of Reclamation in the Nonchernozem Zone.

Here too reclamation specialists in the nonchernozem zone have the right to expect more active help from Union construction ministries, which perform a significant volume of work on key projects of the base of the construction industry of the Main Administration of Reclamation in the Nonchernozem Zone.

In some oblasts there is a serious gap between bringing reclaimed land into use and developing it economically. Often harvests on improved land differ little from harvests on ordinary areas. The state specifically allocates mineral fertilizers, equipment and other material and technical resources for this land. It has the right to demand from workers in agriculture and water management a high yield of output from irrigated and drained land.

In connection with this it should be stressed that in the nonchernozem zone a high efficiency of land reclamation can be expected only if it is carried out jointly with other measures for an increase in its fertility, that is, removal of shrubs, stones and hillocks, performance of leveling operations and application of organic and mineral fertilizers, lime materials and other chemicalization agents in a full norm.

Owing to the energetic measures taken by the party in the last few years the chemicalization service in the nonchernozem zone, as well as in the entire country, is being transformed into a major specialized sector. Production and scientific associations for agrochemical services for agriculture have been established

in all oblasts, krais and autonomous republics. This is especially important for the nonchernozem zone, because the deliveries of mineral fertilizers are growing much more rapidly here than in other regions in the republic. By the end of the current five-year plan kolkhozes and sovkhoses in this zone will obtain 6.7 million tons of fertilizers, which is almost 1½ times as much as in 1980.

Party, Soviet and agricultural bodies are called upon to direct the maximum efforts to the strengthening of the material and technical base of chemicalization, reduction of losses of mineral fertilizers and lime materials during transportation and storage, further improvement in the agrochemical service, training of cadres of agricultural chemists and increase in the efficiency of chemicalization on the basis of an extensive introduction of advanced methods of fertilizer application.

Capital construction holds a special place in the far-reaching object program for the further advance of agricultural production in the nonchernozem zone of the Russian Federation. The past five-year plan in the nonchernozem zone can be called with good reason the five-year plan of extensive production and social-cultural construction. In fact, 33 billion rubles of state capital investments and kolkhoz funds were allocated for the development of agriculture and the industrial sectors connected with it in 5 years, which is 12 billion rubles, or 1.6 times, more than during the Ninth Five-Year Plan. Fixed capital worth 30 billion rubles was put into operation. The average annual volume of construction and installation work increased by 51 percent.

Poultry farms for 12.8 million laying hens and 71 million broilers, animal husbandry complexes and large mechanized farms for the production of milk for 831,000 cows, of beef for 910,000 head and of pork for 870,000 head, warehouses for the storage of mineral fertilizers and toxic chemicals for 4.5 million tons, 380 overall centers for the treatment and storage of seeds of grain crops and many other production facilities were built and put into operation in the zone's oblasts and autonomous republics during that time. All this greatly strengthened the material and technical base of agriculture and had a positive effect on an improvement in the working conditions of rural workers and growth of mechanization of labor intensive processes and labor productivity in agriculture.

The material and technical base of industrial sectors connected with agriculture was further developed in the nonchernozem zone of the RSFSR during the 10th Five-Year Plan. More than 1 billion rubles of capital investments were allocated for the construction of enterprises of light, food and meat and dairy industries and many new flax plants, meat combines, elevators, enterprises for the production of mixed feed and dairy products and other projects were put into operation.

These sectors will be further developed during the current five-year plan. Production capacities for the output of 53.3 million standard cans of fruits and vegetables, 28,600 tons of potato products, 683 tons of meat, 2,730 tons of whole milk products and 42 tons of cheese per shift and of refrigerating capacities for 34,600 tons of one-time storage are to be put into operation. The material and technical base of consumer cooperative, trade and public dining enterprises will be strengthened considerably.

Social-domestic and cultural construction in rural areas is an integral component of the overall program for the development of agricultural production in the non-chernozem zone. The deep turn to the solution of diverse problems connected with the working and living conditions of rural workers has the most direct bearing on a rapid advance of agricultural production and increase in its efficiency. Therefore, the party stresses that linking agricultural production with culture understood in the broadest sense of the word as the culture of labor, way of life and human relations is one of the most important tasks. "Today," L. I. Brezhnev said at the July (1978) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, "the problem can be formulated only as follows: Farm managers, party committees and Soviet and trade-union bodies should manifest no less concern for meeting the housing and domestic needs and the increased cultural requirements of rural workers than for the development of production."⁷

Along with an increase in the volumes of production construction an important step for a significant expansion of housing, domestic and social-cultural construction in rural areas was taken during the 10th Five-Year Plan. A total of 5.6 billion rubles of capital investments were allocated for these purposes in the nonchernozem zone, which is 1.7 times as much as in 1971-1975. Dwelling houses of a total area of 22.8 million square meters, general educational schools for 490,000 places, children's preschool institutions for 178,000 places, clubs and houses of culture for 175,000 places and hospitals for 16,100 beds were built in agriculture with state and kolkhoz funds. Gas facilities were installed in more than 1 million apartments, hundreds of kilometers of electric transmission lines, gas and thermal networks and water supply and sewer lines were laid and many new trade, public dining and domestic service enterprises were put into operation.

The implementation of a wide program for the social and economic development of the nonchernozem zone at higher rates was also envisaged for the 11th Five-Year Plan. During the current five-year plan capital investments in the volume of 9.9 billion rubles, which comprises one-fourth of all the capital investments allocated for agriculture, are to be assigned for the construction of dwelling houses, facilities for municipal and domestic services for the public, preschool institutions, clubs and other projects for nonproduction purposes in rural areas.

Plans have been made to greatly expand the installation of gas facilities on kolkhozes and sovkhozes and at other agricultural enterprises and rural settlements. Almost 23,000 km of water pipes, or 1.6 times more than during the Ninth Five-Year Plan, will be built.

With the expansion of housing and cultural-domestic construction in rural areas and increase in the volume of services rendered to the population the amount of nonproductive capital increased considerably on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the nonchernozem zone. At present the value of nonproductive capital per worker employed in agricultural production totals 1,900 rubles, or 1.5 times as much as in 1975.

Rural construction should be carried out in strict accordance with regional planning projects, as well as projects for the planning and construction of rural settlements.

Extensive work in this direction was done during the past 5-year period. All oblasts and autonomous republics in the nonchernozem zone were provided with overall regional planning schemes, the development of projects for the planning and construction of central farmsteads of kolkhozes and sovkhozes was completed and a significant volume of work on the regional planning of administrative rayons and on the preparation of planning documents for the settlements of sovkhoz departments and kolkhoz brigades was done. The worked out urban construction documents are widely used in the planning, designing and organization of capital construction in rural areas in Moscow, Leningrad, Vladimirskaia and Kaliningradskaia Oblasts, the Chuvashskaya ASSR and some other oblasts and autonomous republics.

"The further advance of agricultural production and rise in the standard of living of the rural population," Comrade L. I. Brezhnev said at the July (1978) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, "are directly connected with the development of a network of motor roads--the main transport, one can say, vital, arteries of rural areas."⁸ The construction of 26,000 km of hard-surface motor roads was envisaged in the nonchernozem zone of the RSFSR during the 10th Five-Year Plan. For the construction of motor highways specialized subdivisions were established in the system of the All-Russian Association for Interkolkhoz Construction Organizations, the road construction organizations of the RSFSR Ministry of Roads were strengthened and extensive work on enlisting kolkhozes, sovkhozes and other enterprises and organizations in road construction was done. All this made it possible to successfully cope with the set assignment and to put into operation about 30,000 km of roads, which exceeds the volume of road work performed during the Ninth Five-Year Plan 1.8-fold.

However, the problem of road construction in rural areas in the nonchernozem zone, as before, remains acute. In Arkhangel'skaya, Kostromskaya, Orlovskaya, Ryazanskaya and Bryanskaya Oblasts and in the Mordovskaya, Udmurtskaya and Komi Autonomous Republics 31 to 50 percent of the central farmsteads do not yet have stable transport communications with rayon centers. In connection with this the task of providing all the centralized farmsteads of kolkhozes and sovkhozes, large settlements and rayon centers with roads connecting them with general-purpose highways by 1985 is set.

A total of 38,300 km of hard-surface motor roads for general use and intrafarm roads on kolkhozes and sovkhozes are to be built in the nonchernozem zone. It is important to ensure the envisaged volume of road construction, as well as to exceed it considerably, more fully utilizing local capabilities for this.

The considerable increase in the volumes of rural construction required an accelerated establishment and strengthening of the production base of contracting organizations in the nonchernozem zone. A special decree of the CPSU Central Committee and of the USSR Council of Ministers on this matter was adopted.⁹ In 5 years more than 3 billion rubles of capital investments were allocated for the construction of enterprises of the construction industry and of the construction materials industry and dozens of rural building combines, wooden house building plants and large capacities for the production of precast reinforced concrete, keramzit gravel, rubble and other materials and structures were and are being built. It can be stated with confidence that a good foundation for an increase in the rates of rural construction in the nonchernozem zone in the future was laid during those years.

Retaining personnel in rural areas is problem No 1. For this purpose it is necessary to increase the concern for the creation of the necessary housing and domestic conditions for rural workers. Today it can be stated with good reason that, where nonproduction projects are built insufficiently and slowly, as a rule, the rural area loses skilled personnel more rapidly. Conversely, in rural areas, where normal working and living conditions are created for people, there are no difficulties with the establishment of strong stable production collectives.

Comrade A. D. Chervyakov, chairman of the Put' Lenina Kolkhoz in Kotel'nichskiy Rayon, Kirovskaya Oblast, spoke about this convincingly from the tribune of the 26th CPSU Congress.¹⁰ Owing to the fundamental improvement in working and living conditions the farm was fully provided with its own personnel, which opened up wide possibilities for a more productive utilization of equipment and made it possible to carry out all agricultural work promptly and in a quality manner and to attain a high yield from every hectare of land. The farm doubled agricultural output during the 10th Five-Year Plan and envisages attaining even higher goals during the 11th Five-Year Plan. The kolkhoz obtains 35 quintals of grain crops and up to 9 quintals of flax fiber per hectare and no less than 4,500 kg of milk per cow and delivers large-horned cattle of an average weight not below 500 kg to the meat combine.

Owing to the constant attention of party and Soviet bodies extensive work on public services and amenities in rural areas is carried out in Veliko-Ustyugskiy Rayon, Vologodskaya Oblast. There each of the 15 farms has clubs, kindergartens, restaurants and overall domestic service centers. Housing construction problems were solved purposefully during the 10th Five-Year Plan. As a result, the rayon farms are fully provided with manpower and successfully fulfill the plans for the production and purchases of agricultural products. There is a different situation in Kaduyskiy Rayon in the same oblast, where many farms do not have kindergartens or restaurants. On kolkhozes and sovkhoses during the past 5-year period the plan for the commissioning of dwelling houses was fulfilled only 28 percent. Therefore, it is not accidental that young people hardly remain there for agricultural work and agricultural output does not grow. The conditions seemingly are the same, but, as we see, the results are quite different.

The lack of proper production and, especially, housing and cultural-domestic conditions on many farms is the original cause of the continuing migration of the rural population. Therefore, the problem of a full provision of cadres of machine operators, livestock breeders and specialists in other trades and of the establishment of stable labor collectives, as before, remains urgent for many kolkhozes and sovkhoses in the nonchernozem zone.

Taking this into consideration, the Central Committee of the Party and the USSR Council of Ministers on 22 May 1979 adopted a special decree "On Additional Measures To Retain Personnel in Agriculture in the Nonchernozem Zone of the RSFSR,"¹¹ which established new privileges for young specialists and increments for a continuous length of service on a farm and mapped out measures to develop nonproduction construction, auxiliary enterprises and cottage industries in rural areas and to improve the working and cultural-domestic conditions of rural residents. At the same time, with due regard for specific conditions it is very important to establish optimal proportions between production and nonproduction construction.

Improvement in individual housing construction is of great importance in the solution of the personnel problem in rural areas. This is simultaneously a political, economic and social task. The psychological aspect of everyday life should also be kept in mind. When people begin to build their homes, this means that they want to remain at the chosen place forever. The conditions necessary for this must be created everywhere, there must be a more attentive attitude toward the population's needs and all problems connected with individual construction must be solved efficiently. Things must be organized so that every person wishing to build a home for himself could choose a project according to his taste, buy building materials and receive credit in the State Bank and other necessary help.

The decree of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers "On Further Developing the Construction of Individual Dwelling Houses and Retaining Personnel in Rural Areas" (19 June 1978) directs party, Soviet and economic bodies to this.¹² It opens up great possibilities for an expansion of housing construction. Unfortunately, organizational work on the fulfillment of this decree is not set up efficiently in a number of places. To this day some problems have not been solved by planning bodies. In particular, the credits allocated to kolkhozes and sovkhozes for individual construction are not fully secured with material and technical resources and the wage fund.

Our industry manufacturing wood panel homes is heavily indebted to rural workers. The USSR Ministry of Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood Processing Industry, the main supplier of dwelling houses, realizes the program for an increase in the output and quality of this very necessary product in an extremely inefficient way. As a result, the volumes of housing construction with the population's funds do not increase in rural areas and in a number of places, primarily in Novgorodskaya, Vladimirskaya, Ivanovskaya, Kostromskaya, Orlovskaya and some other oblasts are even reduced.

Placing residents of small villages and farms in well-planned settlements is a vitally important social and political task in the reorganization of nonchernozem rural areas. This work is already carried out on a large scale. About 55,000 kolkhoz and sovkhoz families moved to large, as a rule, better planned settlements in the nonchernozem zone of the RSFSR during 1976-1980. However, practice shows that this process is complex and long and requires a very attentive and sensitive approach to every family. Therefore, we should decide on the prospects or the lack of prospects for a specific settlement only after a careful study of all factors, at the same time, being guided by the interests of a farm and the prospects for its development, not by short-term advantages. When forming intrafarm and rayon settlement systems, it is very important to rule out formalism, an oversimplified approach and routine in this matter.

It is quite obvious that many small settlements will exist for a comparatively long time. Therefore, not carrying out new construction here, it is necessary to see to it that the available housing and municipal facilities are repaired and to ensure normal trade and domestic, medical, transport and other services for the public.

It must not be forgotten that many valuable old monuments, which are our history and our pride, are located on the age-old Russian land of the nonchernozem zone. In connection with this, when determining the prospects for the development of

villages and hamlets, it is necessary to take into account these circumstances and to be guided by the requirements for the protection and efficient utilization of cultural monuments.

The following question has been widely discussed in our press recently: What should the modern village be? The experience in the construction of the villages Druzhba and Sel'skaya Nov' in Moscow Oblast, Verkhnyaya Troitsa in Kalininskaya Oblast, Nikol'skoye in Smolenskaya Oblast, Serkovo in Gor'kovskaya Oblast and a number of others gives an answer to this question to some extent. They are advantageously distinguished by good planning and the construction of primarily one- and two-story houses with private plots and farm structures.

It is very important for the modern village to give people extensive opportunities for working, for managing private plots and for receiving the necessary domestic services.

It would also be a mistake to think that it is possible to first build a settlement and then to introduce beauty into it. An organic connection between the comfort and beauty of a rural dwelling house, of a peasant yard and of the village as a whole is the remarkable tradition of popular creative work, which, unfortunately, is often forgotten.

In the practice of construction of many rural settlements there are still frequent cases in which good planning and construction projects noted by the public are not realized, or construction is carried out with great shortcomings and sometimes even with big mistakes causing additional capital investments. There are still cases in which long-term plans are disrupted at the whim of some workers, places of attachments of projects are changed without coordination with planners and architects and plans are replaced, which impairs construction and impoverishes the architecture of rural settlements.

There are many long-term plans which, basically, envisage multistory construction of kolkhoz and sovkhos settlements ruling out the management of private plots and directed only toward state investment of funds in housing construction without the use of the population's funds. This is a one-sided approach and it does not meet the wishes of rural residents and the interests of the society at large.

Planning organizations should study the population's needs more attentively, react to them promptly and embody them in the developed plans of dwelling houses and public buildings. These plans should be distinguished by architectural expression and comfortable planning of apartments with due regard for national traditions and local conditions.

The problem of engineering buildup of rural areas remains an acute problem in their transformation. In a number of cases in rural areas it is more profitable to use local systems of engineering equipment, autonomous heat sources and other technical solutions ensuring a decrease in one-time expenditures and a gradual development of systems with due regard for real construction volumes. However, a wide introduction of efficient engineering systems is hampered owing to the extremely insufficient production of the appropriate equipment and new sanitary engineering materials. Planning bodies and the appropriate ministries and departments

should ensure a series output of multifunctional heat units on solid and gaseous fuel, steel water heating boilers of average productivity, heat exchangers and other thermal power equipment for rural areas. The production of water lifting equipment, compact installations for the purification of drinking water and sewage and machinery and equipment necessary for rural canalization should be also expanded considerably.

The problems of social reorganization of rural areas in the nonchernozem zone of the RSFSR are such that it is difficult to solve them in a full volume in a short time. This requires the initiative and activity of local party organizations and soviets of people's deputies, not only large allocations and great efforts for the development of the construction industry base, increase in the capacities of contracting construction and installation organizations and improvement in the organization and quality of construction.

The results of the first years of realization of the overall program for the transformation of the nonchernozem zone are a good basis and a reliable springboard for large-scale creative work on an accelerated development of agriculture in this zone during the next decade.

The main directions in this work for the 11th Five-Year Plan were determined in the above-mentioned decree of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers adopted in March of the current year, which is a clear new evidence of the great concern of the Communist Party and the Soviet Government and of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, for an accelerated advance of agricultural production in the nonchernozem zone, its transformation into a highly developed sector of the economy and rise in the standard of living of the Soviet people.

"If agriculture as a whole is discussed," L. I. Brezhnev stressed in the accountability report of the CPSU Central Committee at the 26th Party Congress, "it faces the same main problem as other national economic sectors: improvement in efficiency and quality. We will continue to allocate large financial and material resources for rural areas and go on with the systematic transfer of this sector to an industrial basis. However, the center of gravity--this is the distinctive feature of the agrarian policy in the 1980's--now shifts to the return on capital investments, growth of productivity of agriculture and intensification and improvement in its relations with all sectors of the agroindustrial complex."¹³ This also fully applies to the nonchernozem zone. In this zone by 1985 the volume of gross agricultural output is to be increased by 30 percent, of grain production, by 33 percent, of potato production, by 23 percent, of vegetable production, by 35 percent, of flax fiber production, by 54 percent, of meat and egg production, by 21 percent and of milk production, by 13 percent, as compared with the average annual level attained during the 10th Five-Year Plan. Thus, the rates of growth of agricultural output in the nonchernozem zone are very high.

Following the spirit of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress, party and Soviet bodies, trade-union, Komsomol and other public organizations and all labor collectives in the nonchernozem zone, having discussed the party and government decree

on problems concerning the further development of agriculture in the zone adopted in March 1981, critically examined the experience of preceding years, strictly handled the shortcomings and miscalculations noted in this decree and even more activated their efforts in the fight for an increase in responsibility and discipline at all levels and for an unconditional fulfillment of stepped-up and complex, but realistic, assignments. The manner of work organically combining performance and discipline with bold initiative and enterprise, practical and business-like nature with aspiration for big goals and a critical attitude toward shortcomings with firm confidence in the historical advantages of the path chosen by us is affirmed and perfected in daily work and in the overcoming of shortcomings. "The manner and method of management is a matter important for the entire party and for the entire nation," noted the accountability report of the CPSU Central Committee to the 26th Congress. "To remember this every day and to follow Leninist norms in everything is the direct duty of every party leader!"¹⁴

Strict observance of planning discipline is one of the main conditions for the accomplishment of the tasks advanced by the party. Meanwhile, during the past 5-year period, despite the adopted measures, the plans for capital investments and construction and installation work were not fulfilled completely and many projects for production and nonproduction purposes were not put into operation. There are several reasons for this. The lag in the development of the construction industry base behind the increasing volumes of construction and installation work, as well as the shortcomings in the utilization of available production capacities, is one of the main ones. A shortage of working personnel and their high turnover are felt in many construction organizations in the nonchernozem zone.

The underfulfillment of plans by contracting organizations forces kolkhozes and sovkhoses to increase the economic method of construction, which leads to a reduction in the quality and increase in the cost of construction. Furthermore, farms are unable to build complex modern installations with their own forces, which, naturally, leads to the dissipation of funds over numerous small projects and prolongation of the periods of construction work. In a number of oblasts and autonomous republics up to 30 percent of the total volume of construction and installation work in rural areas and more is performed by the economic method.

Especially many houses are built by the economic method. For example, in the RSFSR Ministry of Agriculture their proportion in housing construction comprises 42 percent. As a rule, dwelling houses built with the forces of kolkhozes and sovkhoses are put into operation without the appropriate amenities, which evokes just complaints by workers.

The lag in construction work in a number of places is also due to reasons of a subjective nature, in particular to the fact that managers of contracting construction organizations, having available a powerful production base, at times under different pretexts try to avoid filling the orders of rural areas and, even if they accept the proposed volumes of work, they do not pay proper attention to these projects in the process of construction. What else can explain, for example, the fact that the contracting organizations of the USSR Ministry of Construction, of the USSR Ministry of Industrial Construction and of the USSR Ministry of Construction of Heavy Industry Enterprises, having plans for rural construction in the nonchernozem zone of the RSFSR in terms of 3 to 12 percent of the total volume of construction and installation work in the republic, do not fulfill them systematically?

The interests of the cause urgently demand the active participation of all construction ministries and departments in work on the transformation of the nonchernozem zone. It is necessary to increase the volumes of construction and installation work in rural areas at more rapid rates and to establish the necessary construction industry base for this.

The transformation of the nonchernozem zone should be given the scope demanded by the CPSU Central Committee. From the tribune of the 26th Congress Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev urged, essentially, the entire party and the entire nation, including fraternal Union republics, to work in a friendly and energetic manner in the nonchernozem zone, as they worked on the construction of the Turkestan-Siberian Railroad and of the Ural-Kuznetsk Coal Basin, on the development of virgin land and on the restoration of Tashkent.¹⁵

The collectives of enterprises and organizations in the Uzbek, Belorussian, Lithuanian and Kirghiz SSR displayed a remarkable initiative for a significant expansion of patronage help to kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the nonchernozem zone. There is no doubt that other fraternal Union republics will also follow their example.

The messengers of the Leninist Komsomol take an active part in the fulfillment of the overall program for the transformation of the nonchernozem zone. During the 11th Five-Year Plan with the forces of young people a large number of dwelling houses, schools and children's preschool institutions will be built and a significant volume of work on land reclamation and production construction will be fulfilled.

Many autonomous republics, krays and oblasts in the Russian Federation take an active part in this vast enterprise. However, workers in agriculture and in all other sectors in the zone should, of course, be the most interested people and the most active participants in the region's renovation.

The experience of our party accumulated at all the stages of economic construction convincingly indicates that the success of this matter depends on the level of farm management and on the ability to mobilize the masses and to evoke creative activity and initiative in them. This should become the basis in the activity of party and Soviet bodies and of the entire combat detachment of party members in the nonchernozem zone.

Agricultural workers in the RSFSR together with the entire Soviet nation, in response to the new manifestation of the party and government concern for the development of the nonchernozem zone of the Russian Federation, have actively joined in the socialist competition for a successful fulfillment of the plans of the current year and the five-year plan as a whole. They are firmly resolved to implement the Leninist agrarian policy of the party with even greater energy and persistence.

FOOTNOTES

1. PRAVDA, 15 April 1981.
2. L. I. Brezhnev, "Leninskim Kursom" [Following Lenin's Policy], speeches and articles, Vol 5, Moscow, 1976, pp 8-9.

3. L. I. Brezhnev, "Leninskim Kursom," speeches, salutatory addresses, articles and recollections, Vol 7, Moscow, 1979, p 617.
4. See, for example, "KPSS v Rezolyutsiyakh i Resheniyakh S'yezdov, Konferentsiy i Plenumov TsK" /The CPSU in the Resolutions and Decisions of Congresses, Conferences and Plenums of the Central Committee/, Vol 13, Moscow, 1981, pp 79-87, 88-92, 99-106, 107-114, 115-121, 135-141, 142-149, 150-154, 155-160, 161-173, 196-201, 298-301, 316-328, 371-374, 470-476, 527-530 and 604-609.
5. "Materialy XXVI S'yezda KPSS" /Data of the 26th CPSU Congress/, Moscow, 1981, p 56.
6. V. I. Lenin, "Poln. Sobr. Soch." /Complete Works/, Vol 16, pp 228 and 303; Vol 17, p 70.
7. L. I. Brezhnev, "Leninskim Kursom," Vol 7, p 434.
8. Ibid, p 430.
9. "Resheniya Partii i Pravitel'stva po Khozyaystvennym Voprosam" /Party and Government Decisions on Economic Problems/, Vol 11, Moscow, 1977, pp 361-365.
10. See PRAVDA, 26 February 1981.
11. See "KPSS v Rezolyutsiyakh i Resheniyakh...", Vol 13, pp 371-374.
12. "Resheniya Partii i Pravitel'stva po Khozyaystvennym Voprosam," Vol 12, Moscow, 1979, pp 300-303.
13. "Materialy XXVI S'yezda KPSS," p 46.
14. Ibid, p 73.
15. Ibid, p 56.

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